

Year 2 Newsletter



Themed Half Term: All Around The World

Year 2

We can't wait to welcome you all into Year 2! We hope you had a restful and happy summer holiday and are just as excited as us to be starting a new school year. We are really looking forward to the year ahead with your children and hope you are too!

Year 2 Staff: Mrs Refausse

Miss Hazar & Mrs Prestwich

If you have any queries or concerns you would like to discuss, please contact the office to arrange a telephone call or an appointment with me.



Important Dates

Friday

All homework is due in.
Diaries due in: signed with reading & KIRFs recorded.

PE Our P.E days are on a Monday and Wednesday. Please ensure your child has their full PE kit, appropriate for all outdoor weathers in school.

Please label all items of clothing, including coats, shoes and pumps.

RE

This half-term in RE, our topic is 'Chosen People' where we will develop children's understanding of how they are special and the gifts God gives each one of us. We will explore how to show thanks to God and learn the stories of people who showed trust in God, including Abraham and Daniel. There will be opportunities for children to ask questions about the stories they hear and to nurture a sense of wonder.

English

We will start the term using the key text 'Dear Teacher' by Amy Husband which links to our new start to the school year and themed learning All Around the World. Children will read letters from 'Michael' to his new teacher 'Miss Brooks' sharing his adventures around the globe which means he will be late to starting school! We will look at features of letters and write and respond to both Michael and Miss Brooks taking on the role of both characters to write imaginatively. Later in the term, we will explore non-fiction texts, writing about and researching different places and continents to create fact-files and brochures.

Maths

We will start our Maths learning with place value, to ensure a secure foundation for all future number work. We will explore different ways to represent tens and ones and different strategies to partition numbers. We will then secure step-counting in 2s, 5s and 10s and learn to count in 3s. Finally, we will learn to recognise and use number fact-families and make number bonds to 100. Children will continue to have daily KIRF activities to work on this half-term's starting with: counting forward and back from 0 - 100 starting from any number.

Science

This half-term, our Science unit is all about Living Things and their Environment. We will explore what is living, dead and never been alive! We will link our learning to our topic, All Around the World, and explore different habitats including polar and tropical habitats. We will finish this unit of learning by looking at food chains and children will have opportunities to demonstrate their understanding by writing fact-files.

Computing

This half-term, during our computing curriculum, we will build on the programming skills children started in Year 1 using a programme called Scratch. Children will develop their own codes and create their own Sprite, learning to make it move in different directions and across different backgrounds. We will also be revisiting how to stay safe online.

Art & Design

Our first project is to draw self-portraits to make passports to help us travel around the world this half-term. We will be developing our understanding of line and explore this through pencil drawing. We will then travel to South America to look at the collaged self-portraits of Frida Kahlo and use her work as a starting point for our own.

Topic (History & Geography)

Our Geography based topic this half-term is All Around the World. Children will learn to name and identify continents and oceans and explore different regions and habitats. This topic links closely to our Science learning, about Living Things and their Environments, and we will apply our learning in English lessons locating 'Michaels' adventures and by writing fact-files. We will also find out about some explorers from the past and contrast their journeys with modern day expeditions around the world.

Languages

Linked to our Geography theme on Around the World, we will look at greetings from around the world before continuing to develop our learning of the French language from Year 1. Children will investigate different greetings in French that are used at different times of the day and for different people.

Music

Through our music lessons, we will listen to and appraise a variety of different music and musical instruments from around the world. We will develop children's learning from Year 1 of clapping rhythms, identifying the pulse of music and singing rhythmic phrases. We will then head to the rainforests and try making and performing with our own rainmakers.

PE

This half term, the children will have a PE partner session on a Wednesday where they will focus on agility, balance and co-ordination through a variety of ball games. We will also begin to develop children's football skills week by week. Please ensure your child has their full PE kit in school daily.

PSHE

We will develop children's emotional literacy by learning to name, recognise and manage different feelings, both their own and the feelings of others around them. Later in the half-term, we will explore friendships and what it means to be a good friend. We will use role play to explore common challenges and ways to become more independent in solving difficulties.

Homework

Spellings are issued (both online on Spelling Shed and in books) every Friday, for a 'check' (test) the following Friday. Mathematics and Reading Eggs activities are also set every week on a Friday. Please continue to read daily/ as often as you can with your child. Remember reading to your child has lots of benefits too! Please visit the Homework section at the bottom of the Year 2 web page on our school website to find additional, optional tasks related to your child's learning this half term

[Our homework policy is available on the school website.](#)



Ways to Help Your Child

Homework tasks provide a good opportunity to secure classroom learning and teach children discipline and time-management skills, so please complete homework tasks as often as you can. Reading with your child continues to be a priority in Year 2, and as your child grows in confidence as a reader, it is important to challenge them with questions and discussions around the text. Inference based questions, where children are challenged to draw on prior knowledge, make links to other things they have read and 'read between the lines', provide a high level of challenge for all children. You can also start to encourage your child to recognise the writer's craft, for example, drawing attention to word choice and punctuation, and this in turn will support their writing. It is also beneficial for your child to hear an adult reading aloud to them. This is proven to support children with reading fluency and enjoyment for reading too.

I am very much looking forward to working with you and your child this term.